

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment comprising:

means for presenting a program guide screen containing a program listings region with the interactive television program guide;

means for presenting at least one banner advertisement adjacent and external to the program listings; and

means for allowing a user to ~~scrolling the program listings region by positioning~~ position a highlight on the banner advertisement and ~~activating~~ activate a cursor while the highlight is on the banner advertisement; and

means for scrolling the program listings region to a new page of program listings in response to the user activating the cursor.

2. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the at least one banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a banner advertisement that contains text.

3. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the at least one banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a banner advertisement that contains graphics.

4. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the at least one banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a banner advertisement that contains video.

5. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising a set-top box on which the interactive television program guide is implemented.

6. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

a television distribution facility for distributing television programming to the user television equipment; and

a video server located in the television distribution facility for providing advertisements containing video to the user television equipment.

7. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

a television distribution facility for distributing television programming to the user television equipment;

a plurality of network nodes for use in providing the television programming to the user television equipment; and

video servers located at some of the network nodes for providing advertisements containing video to the user television equipment.

8. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement adjacent and external to the program listings.

9. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for presenting an embedded advertisement in the program listings region.

10. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for presenting a selectable embedded advertisement in the program listings region, the program listings region containing upper program listings above the embedded advertisement and lower program listings below the embedded advertisement, wherein the user must navigate through the embedded advertisement in order to navigate from the upper program listings to the lower program listings.

11. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for presenting a selectable embedded advertisement in the program listings region.

12. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for presenting a selectable logo on the program guide screen.

13. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for presenting an advertisement containing advertisement options on the program guide screen.

14. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to set a reminder when the user selects the banner advertisement.

15. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement

further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to tune to a given channel when the user selects the banner advertisement.

16. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to record a program when the user selects the banner advertisement.

17. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to purchase a program when the user selects the banner advertisement.

18. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement

further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to display program listings when the user selects the banner advertisement.

19. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to display additional information when the user selects the banner advertisement.

20. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to process an inquiry for additional information when the user selects the banner advertisement.

21. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for providing the user with an opportunity to purchase goods when the user selects the banner advertisement.

22. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

means for presenting an embedded advertisement in the program listings region; and

means for scrolling the embedded advertisement together with the program listings in the program listings region.

23. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

means for presenting an embedded advertisement in the program listings region; and

means for changing the position of the program listings in the program listings region without changing the

position of the embedded advertisement within the program listings region.

24. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for introducing an embedded advertisement into the program listings region using animation.

25. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

means for displaying a highlight;

means for presenting selectable logos on the program guide screen; and

means for navigating the highlight from the program listings region to the selectable logos.

26. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for displaying two embedded advertisements in the program listings region.

27. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 1 wherein the means for presenting the banner

advertisement further comprises means for presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the system further comprising means for displaying a description box on the program guide screen when the user selects the banner advertisement, the description box covering only a portion of the program listings region so that at least one program listing in the program listings region remains uncovered.

28. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for cycling the content of the banner advertisements.

29. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising:

means for cycling the content of the banner advertisements; and

means for providing a special effect between the banner advertisements as they are cycled.

30. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for automatically displaying an

embedded advertisement in the program listings region immediately adjacent to an associated one of the program listings in the program listings region.

31. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for automatically displaying a selectable embedded advertisement in the program listings region immediately adjacent to an associated one of the program listings in the program listings region.

32. (Original): The system defined in claim 1 further comprising means for automatically displaying a selectable embedded program advertisement in the program listings region immediately adjacent to an associated one of the program listings in the program listings region.

33. (Currently Amended): A method for using an interactive television program guide that is implemented on user television equipment comprising the steps of:

presenting a program guide screen containing a program listings region with the interactive television program guide;

presenting at least one banner advertisement adjacent and external to the program listings; ~~and~~

allowing a user to ~~scroll the program listings region by positioning~~ position a highlight on the banner advertisement and ~~activating~~ activate a cursor while the highlight is on the banner advertisement; and

scrolling the program listings region to a new page of program listings in response to the user activating the cursor.

34. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the at least one banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a banner advertisement that contains text.

35. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the at least one banner

advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a banner advertisement that contains graphics.

36. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the at least one banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a banner advertisement that contains video.

37. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of implementing the interactive television program guide on a set-top box.

38. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the steps of:

 distributing television programming to the user television equipment with a television distribution facility;
and

 providing advertisements containing video to the user television equipment with a video server located in the television distribution facility.

39. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the steps of:

distributing television programming to the user television equipment with a television distribution facility;
providing the television programming to the user television equipment using a plurality of network nodes; and
providing advertisements containing video to the user television equipment with video servers located at some of the network nodes.

40. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement adjacent and external to the program listings.

41. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of presenting an embedded advertisement in the program listings region.

42. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of presenting a selectable embedded advertisement in the program listings region, the program listings region containing upper program listings above the embedded advertisement and lower program listings below the embedded advertisement, wherein the user must navigate through the embedded advertisement in order to navigate from the upper program listings to the lower program listings.

43. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of presenting a selectable embedded advertisement in the program listings region.

44. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of presenting a selectable logo on the program guide screen.

45. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of presenting an advertisement containing advertisement options on the program guide screen.

46. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to set a reminder when the user selects the banner advertisement.

47. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to tune to a given channel when the user selects the banner advertisement.

48. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to record a program when the user selects the banner advertisement.

49. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to purchase a program when the user selects the banner advertisement.

50. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to display program listings when the user selects the banner advertisement.

51. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to display

additional information when the user selects the banner advertisement.

52. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to process an inquiry for additional information when the user selects the banner advertisement.

53. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of providing the user with an opportunity to purchase goods when the user selects the banner advertisement.

54. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the steps of:

presenting an embedded advertisement in the
program listings region; and

scrolling the embedded advertisement together
with the program listings in the program listings region.

55. (Original): The method defined in claim 33
further comprising the steps of:

presenting an embedded advertisement in the
program listings region; and

changing the position of the program listings in
the program listings region without changing the position of
the embedded advertisement within the program listings region.

56. (Original): The method defined in claim 33
further comprising the step of introducing an embedded
advertisement into the program listings region using animation.

57. (Original): The method defined in claim 33
further comprising the steps of:

displaying a highlight;

presenting selectable logos on the program guide screen; and

navigating the highlight from the program listings region to the selectable logos.

58. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of displaying two embedded advertisements in the program listings region.

59. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 wherein the step of presenting the banner advertisement further comprises the step of presenting a selectable banner advertisement, the method further comprising the step of displaying a description box on the program guide screen when the user selects the banner advertisement, the description box covering only a portion of program listings region so that at least one program listing in the program listings region remains uncovered.

60. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of cycling the content of the banner advertisements.

61. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the steps of:

cycling the content of the banner advertisements; and

providing a special effect between the banner advertisements as they are cycled.

62. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of automatically displaying an embedded advertisement in the program listings region immediately adjacent to an associated one of the program listings in the program listings region.

63. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of automatically displaying a selectable embedded advertisement in the program listings

Appln. No. 09/070,604
Amdt. Dated August 13, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 21, 2003

region immediately adjacent to an associated one of the program listings in the program listings region.

64. (Original): The method defined in claim 33 further comprising the step of automatically displaying a selectable embedded program advertisement in the program listings region immediately adjacent to an associated one of the program listings in the program listings region.